

MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

August**2007**

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31
 NOAA's National Weather Service
 1325 East West Highway
 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE

Jason Johnson

DATE

September 24, 2007

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).

☐ An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

A couple of heavy rain events across the hydrologic service area (HSA) during August put this month in the top 10 wettest August on record for Abilene (ranked 4th) and San Angelo (ranked 7th). The most notable August event was a 48-hour period associated with the remnants of Tropical Storm Erin during the middle of the month. Widespread flooding occurred that began over the Northwest Hill Country and spread west and north to the Concho Valley and Big Country.

Tropical Storm Erin formed in the Gulf of Mexico on August 14 and made landfall near Lamar, Texas, on August 16. Once over land, the remnants of the storm (tropical depression) continued to move toward central Texas before making its way north into Oklahoma.

Heavy overnight rains (16th – 17th) across the Northwest Hill Country caused rises along the Llano River and its tributaries. Rainfall amounts between three to five inches fell over parts of the Llano River watershed. Beaver Creek near Mason and the Llano River near Mason rose quickly and crested just below flood stage during the early morning hours of the 17th.

As the depression moved to the northwest, heavy rains from the evening of the 17th through the 18th created significant rises on creeks and rivers in the Concho Valley and Big Country. Over the South Concho River basin, widespread rainfall amounts in excess of four inches caused the river at Christoval to crest around 12.68 feet (flood stage = 10 feet) at 12:30 PM on the 18th. On the Colorado River near Ballinger, widespread rainfall in excess of five inches in Coke and Runnels Counties, produced a crest of 20.08 feet (flood stage = 18 feet) at 7:30 PM on the 18th.

Moving north to the Big Country, heavy rain across Nolan, Taylor, Fisher and Jones Counties caused wide-spread flooding of communities like Merkel, Hamlin and Abilene. In Nolan County, two reservoirs made significant gains in volume. Six to nine inches of wide-spread heavy rain over the Bitter Creek watershed and Oak Creek watershed caused Lake Sweetwater to rise over 29 feet and Oak Creek Reservoir to rise over 15 feet.

An area of heavy rain fell across eastern Taylor County early during the afternoon of the 17th which produced sharp rises on the creeks flowing through Abilene (Cat Claw Creek, Cedar Creek, Elm Creek). These creeks quickly fed Fort Phantom Hill Reservoir that was already filled to conservation capacity. Overnight on the 17th into early morning on the 18th, the depression, once again produce heavy tropical rains through central Taylor County and moved north. The heavy rain in the Elm Creek watershed upstream of Lake Abilene caused significant flooding. Several homes and structures were flooded near the Coronado's Camp

area. Sadly, there was the loss of one life in this area of Taylor County. A 34 year old woman was driving along Highway 89 when her vehicle was swept off the road by flood waters. These floodwaters moved down Elm Creek, spilled through Lake Abilene, and moved through the City of Abilene. The floodwaters were unable to negotiate the sharp bends in the channel downstream of North 1st Street and water spilled out of the banks of Elm Creek. Water collected in low areas along northwest portions of Abilene causing damage to numerous structures. The flooded Elm Creek caused an additional rise on Fort Phantom Hill Reservoir. This new rise damaged several homes around the reservoir.

Also, in northern Taylor County, the community of Merkel was overwhelmed with floodwaters. Merkel is located across the headwaters of Mulberry Creek. With widespread rainfall of five to seven inches over the area, numerous homes and structures were inundated with water.

The heavy rain spread north into Fisher and Jones Counties, where six to nine inches of rain fell over the headwaters of California Creek. This caused flood damage to over 250 homes in Hamlin.

The Clear Fork of the Brazos River collected most of the Big Country floodwaters. Water spilled from Fort Phantom Hill Reservoir to the Clear Fork Brazos River. In Jones County, the Clear Fork at Nugent crested around 18.8 feet (flood stage = 18 feet) at 6:00 PM on the 20th. Further downstream, the Clear Fork near Fort Griffin crested around 28.16 feet (flood stage = 25 feet) at 2:00 PM on the 23rd.

The average rainfall reported from coop observers in August was 4.60 inches. The highest monthly rainfall total of 11.97 inches was reported in Taylor County. Coop observers in Coke, Crockett, Fisher, Jones, Nolan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Taylor, Throckmorton and Tom Green Counties received over five inches of rain in August.

The San Angelo Regional Airport received 6.55 inches of precipitation during August, which was 4.50 inches above normal for the month. The monthly normal rainfall for San Angelo in August is 2.05 inches.

The Abilene Regional Airport received 7.07 inches of precipitation during August, which was 4.44 inches above normal for the month. The monthly normal rainfall for Abilene in August is 2.63 inches.

Junction received 3.18 inches of rain in August. The estimated average monthly rainfall in August is about 2.75 inches.

Coop Observer Rainfall Totals for August, 2007:

Station Name	Amt (in)	Station Name	Amt (in)
Abilene 2	10.08	Merkel 12SW	11.97
Acton Ranch	3.77	Oak Creek Lake	9.74
Albany	3.45	Ozona	2.37
Anson	5.01	Ozona 22SE	10.18
Ballinger 2NW	3.43	Paint Rock	3.49
Brady	3.66	Putnam	3.45
Brownwood	0.78	Red Bluff Crossing	0.62
Burkett	2.02	Richland Springs	2.50
Coleman	1.34	Robert Lee	8.44
Concho Park	1.87	Roscoe	6.43
Eden	3.80	Rotan	6.50
Eldorado	7.31	San Angelo WFO	5.93
Eldorado 10W	7.29	San Saba 7NW	1.60
Eldorado 12N	8.85	Silver Valley	1.66
Fort Griffin	3.39	Sonora	5.85
Fort McKavett	4.55	Stamford	6.29
Glen Cove	1.54	Sterling City	5.41
Hamlin	7.16	Taylor Ranch	4.17
Haskell	2.81	Telegraph	3.36
Hords Creek	1.64	Throckmorton 7NE	2.33
Humble Pump	2.25	Water Valley	5.29
Junction 4SSW	4.77	Water Valley 11NE	6.99
Lawn	7.65	Winters	3.21
London 3N	4.32	Woodson	2.78
Mason	4.17		
Menard	2.74		

(M) *Missing data*
(T) *Trace*

Reservoir Conditions (end of August, 2007)

Reservoir	Conservation Capacity (Ac-Ft)	End of Month Capacity (Ac-Ft)	Percent of Capacity (%)
Fort Phantom Hill	70,030	70,030	100
Lake Stamford	51,570	51,570	100
Hubbard Creek Lake	318,070	313,280	98
Hords Creek Lake	8,112	7,900	97
Lake Brownwood	131,428	131,428	100
E.V. Spence	517,270	85,670	17
O.C. Fisher	119,200	12,290	10
O.H. Ivie	554,340	382,200	69
Twin Buttes	177,800	75,440	42

Hydro Products Issued

FFA = 11

FFW = 33

FFS = 36

FLS = 25 (Flood Advisory)

FLW = 8 (Areal Flood Warning)

RVS = 17

FLW = 5 (River Flood Warning)

FLS = 24 (River Flood Statement)